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Title: Need to revive the Naptha based fertilizer units to ease the shortage of Urea .

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): Sir, the House may recollect five years back because of high cost of naptha, five fertilizer units at Baroani, Durgapur, Haldia, Sindri and Gorakhpur were closed down thereby eliminating a total capacity of around two million tonnes of urea. Similarly, Duncan Fertiliser unit at Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh and FACT at Cochin had also to be shut down on this account. The Government's present declared policy is to allow revamping of these closed units through gas only. The viability of which is quite doubtful in the years to come. If the cost of naptha has gone down now to such an extent that Government had to decide its use as a substitute to gas for power generation, then there is no reason why the above cited closed units should be asked to wait for assured availability of gas, though Baroani Unit is already going to be revamped due to the decision of the Cabinet.

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* Not recorded

As on date, the country is having a serious shortage of urea and to bridge the gap of consumption and production, currently about seven million tonnes of urea is being imported at the ruling high import price of US 750 to 800 dollars which is now costlier than the urea produced through naptha.

Therefore, I demand immediate revamping and re-structuring of the closed and sick fertiliser units by using naptha to start with till assured supply of natural gas is ensured.